

PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER 25 November 1985

Letters to the Editor

CIA response

To the Editor:

The Philadelphia Inquirer's Nov. 14 editorial titled "How to lose defectors" claims that the CIA gave information to the press from KGB defector Vitaly S. Yurchenko. This statement is false and is resented deeply by the Central Intelligence Agency.

The CIA has made no information public concerning Mr. Yurchenko, other than Mr. Yur-chenko's biography, as journalists in Washington are well aware. Moreover, it is forbidden by presidential Executive Order 12333 from propagandizing or attempting to influence the American public. We adhere to this restriction.

The unfortunate leaks of Mr. Yurchenko's information to the media have come from sources other than the agency. These leaks are under investigation.

George V. Lauder
Director
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Washington.

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